James Gould Polk

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM OHIO

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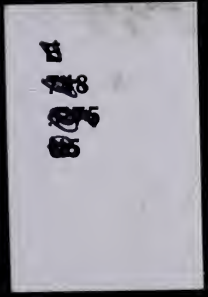

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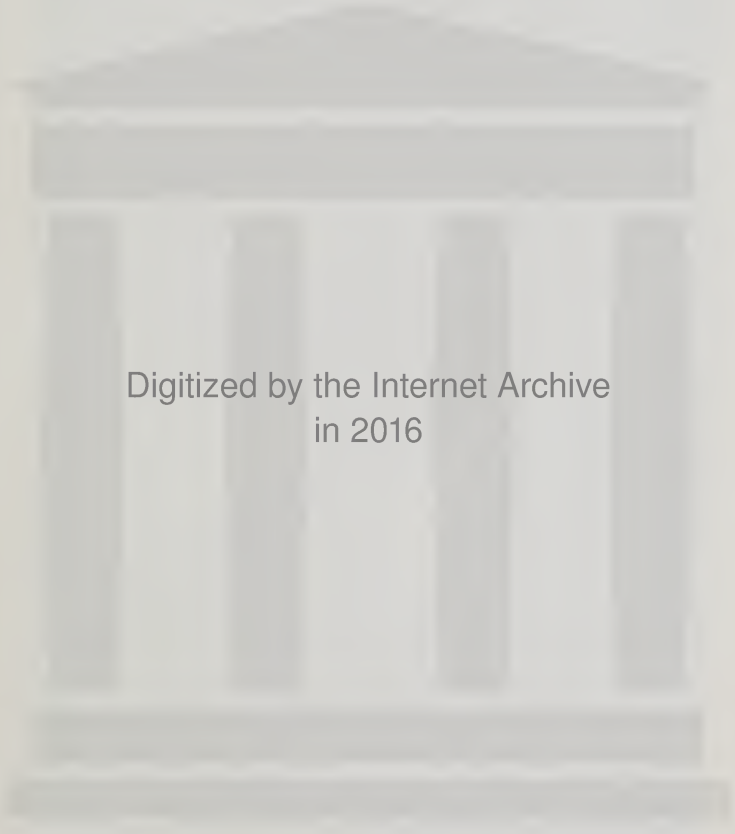
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Memorial Services

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, TOGETHER WITH REMARKS PRESENTED IN EULOGY OF

James Gould Polk

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM OHIO

Eighty-sixth Congress
First Session

U.S. 86th Congress, 1st Session, 1959.

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Biography

James Gould Polk was born on a farm in Penn Township, Highland County, Ohio, October 6, 1896; attended elementary school in Highland, Ohio; graduated from New Vienna (Ohio) High School in 1915; during the First World War while attending the Agricultural College of Ohio State University was inducted into the military service on September 5, 1918, and sent to Camp Sherman, Ohio; upon examination was found not physically qualified for military service and was discharged on September 19, 1918; graduated from Ohio State University in 1919; principal of New Vienna (Ohio) High School 1919–1920; superintendent of schools, New Vienna, 1920–1922; engaged in farming; graduated from Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio, in 1923 with M.A. degree; principal of Hillsboro (Ohio) High School 1923–1928; elected as a Democrat to the Seventy-second and to the four succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1931–January 3, 1941); was not a candidate for renomination in 1940; special assistant in the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., from October 1942 to May 1946; again elected as a Democrat to the Eighty-first and to the five succeeding Congresses and served from January 3, 1949, until his death in Washington, D.C., April 28, 1959; interment in Highland Cemetery, Highland, Ohio.

Memorial Services
for
James Gould Polk

Eighty-sixth Congress
First Session

Proceedings in the House

TUESDAY, *April 28, 1959.*

Mr. KIRWAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to announce to the House the death of our beloved colleague, JAMES G. POLK, of the Sixth District of Ohio.

JIM, as he was familiarly known to all of us, was a fine man. Quiet and reserved, I do not believe he ever said an unkind word in his life about another human being. He was a man who was born for his job. He graduated from the agricultural college of Ohio State University. He taught school and was principal of the high school at New Vienna, Ohio. Then he went back to college and graduated from Wittenberg, later becoming superintendent of all the schools in Hillsboro. He became a candidate for Congress in 1930 and was seated on the 4th of March, 1931. He was elected to each succeeding Congress until 1940 when he chose not to run for office again. He went into the Department of Agriculture as a special assistant where he served 4 years. Then in 1948 he decided to come back to Congress.

The people of the Sixth Ohio District loved and trusted JIM POLK, and held him in the highest esteem. He never raised his voice in anger and distinguished himself as an able, conscientious representative of his people. They understood and respected him. It was my good fortune to know JIM POLK for more than 20 years. I do not believe that I ever met a finer person. To his gracious wife and children I extend deepest heart-felt sympathy in their great loss.

Mr. VANIK. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleague, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Kirwan], in profound sorrow in the untimely passing of our good friend, JIM POLK of the Sixth District of Ohio.

I have known Congressman POLK for over 12 years. From the very first time I came to this body, he was an inspiration and of great counsel. His was the art of gentle persuasion. He was a gentle man. He was a man of courage and firm convictions.

Ohio has lost a very able and devoted spokesman. His district has lost a faithful and honorable servant.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I join with the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Kirwan], and others, in paying tribute to the memory of our good friend and colleague, JIM POLK, who passed away this morning. JIM was a personal friend of mine for more than 30 years. His home was only 20 miles from my home, although in another congressional district. He started his teaching career in my district, as the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Kirwan] has said, and he had been a neighboring Member of Congress—our districts adjoin—for more than 20 years.

While we did not always agree politically, JIM and I were always close personal friends. He was a true gentleman, a man of great character and ability. JIM was a kindly man; a Christian gentleman, if ever there was a Christian gentleman of this earth of ours.

For a long time he suffered from a painful illness, yet he never complained. He was always cheerful. He loved this House. He has been here many times, attending to his official duties, when perhaps he should have stayed at home to preserve his strength and lengthened his life.

JIM POLK served, with outstanding ability, as the Ohio member of the Committee on Agriculture. He took great interest in the problems of all the farmers of the Nation, and

especially in those of the farmers of Ohio. All of us on this side of the aisle regret his passing; and we join in extending to his wonderful wife, and to his children, our deepest and most sincere sympathy in the great loss which has been theirs.

JIM POLK left behind him a good name, and many, many friends who will miss him in the years ahead.

Mr. HAYS. Mr. Speaker, I join with the Members from Ohio and others in expressing my deep sorrow at the passing of our colleague who came back for his second decade of service in Congress when I came here first, in the election of 1948, and was sworn in in January of 1949.

JIM POLK was the kind of man who never thrust his advice upon anyone. He certainly was a kindly person. Coming here as a new Member I turned to him frequently when I wanted to know something. I was impressed with his ability. He always gave you alternatives and never told you you had to do anything; he simply pointed out the facts.

As has been said, he was a kindly man. I have never known a person more kindly than JIM POLK. The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Kirwan] said he never heard him say and believes he never said an unkind word about anybody. I think we can all bear evidence to that. He was the kind of man that I think all of us would like to be. We will miss him, his people will miss him, and his family will miss him. My sympathy goes out to all of them.

Mr. McCULLOCH. Mr. Speaker, I too, was saddened to learn of the passing of our colleague, and my long-time friend from Ohio, JIM POLK. I completely agree with my distinguished colleague from Ohio [Mr. Kirwan] in what he said about JIM POLK. JIM POLK was a good man, he was a kind man. Moreover, in his early days he was a great schoolmaster, and then an outstanding school administrator.

His imprint upon the youth of his community in southern Ohio remains there now, and the results of his good influence on the youth of Ohio will remain long after he has gone.

I join with my colleagues from Ohio in extending my very deepest sympathy to his devoted wife and fine family.

Mr. ASHLEY. Mr. Speaker, it was with profound regret that I learned a few hours ago of the death of one of our most beloved Members, JIM POLK. It has been said that JIM was a kind, a gentle man. And, indeed, these were his virtues. But he was endowed, too with a rare courage, Mr. Speaker. I recall a few years ago in a contest in Ohio where the situation was practically impossible for a certain gubernatorial candidate. But he was JIM POLK'S candidate, and at a time in JIM'S own election, a very close affair, he took to the stump. He spoke on the street corners and in the far reaches of his district for a man in whom he believed, but one he knew, as many of us did, would not be elected. This was the kind of political courage that typified and distinguished JIM POLK.

As my colleague [Mr. Vanik] pointed out, JIM POLK was always ready to give freely of his advice and he did so with real humility. There are few Members who will be remembered with greater love by the younger Members of this House for his kindness and for his help. There will be few who will be remembered with greater love than JIM POLK for the wisdom and for all that he gave.

I join others who have spoken here this morning in expressing my sympathy to his wife and children. We grieve with them in this hour of their sorrow.

Mrs. BOLTON. Mr. Speaker, all of us feel a certain sweetness has gone out of the House with the passing of JIM POLK. All of us have known him as a quiet, unassuming

Member. Some of us have not known him as well as we would like to have known him, but we shall miss him very much.

I join with my Ohio colleagues particularly, and with all the rest of the membership of this House, in paying respect to his memory, but more than that, to express something of the feeling that we have that his spirit will continue to live on with us.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to say more, if I may. I am the only woman Member of the Congress from Ohio. I should like to send a particular word of sympathy and understanding to Mrs. Polk, not only on behalf of myself but on behalf of the wives of the Ohio Members. Mrs. Polk has been a delightful member of our Ohio group and our hearts go out to her in very real sympathy, some of us with a great deal of understanding of what these hours are to her after the anguished weeks and months that have gone before. May heaven give her comfort and peace. It is my earnest hope, Mr. Speaker, that there may come to her the certainty that—

Never the spirit was born; the spirit shall cease to be never;
  Never was time it was not; end and beginning are dreams;
Birthless and deathless and changeless remaineth the spirit forever;
  Death hath not touched it at all, dead though the house of it seems.
Nay, but as one who layeth
  His wornout robes away,
And taking new ones, sayeth
  "These will I wear today."
So putteth by the spirit,
  Lightly its robes of flesh,
And passeth to inherit
  A residence afresh.

Mr. MOELLER. Mr. Speaker, I, too, join my colleagues from Ohio in paying a few words of tribute to a man whom I have learned to know but a brief time, but a man whom I have learned to know to be a very great man. As a freshman Congressman, I called at his office shortly after my arrival here to have a brief chat with him. The kindly counsel and

advice that he gave was the kind that a freshman will want to carry with him and which he so sorely needs. Not only the advice that he had given me caused me to have such great admiration for JIM POLK, but likewise the comments that one would hear from people within his district, which is a neighboring district to mine. People of both Democratic and Republican persuasion would speak words of highest praise of JIM POLK, and primarily because they felt in him they had a man whom they could fully trust. What a wonderful thing it is to hear such fine tributes being paid here on the floor by Members speaking about this man in the vein they do. He was an honorable man, a dedicated man, and I am sure his widow and his survivors will well understand our admiration for him, and to them go our most profound sympathies.

Mr. BETTS. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my sorrow and sadness at the passing of JIM POLK. In every sense of the word JIM POLK was a true gentleman. I do not think there was a Member of this body that took his job, his position here in Congress more seriously than he did. He will be missed not only by our delegation but by the whole House, particularly the Committee on Agriculture, where he did such valiant work. I want to join my colleagues from Ohio as well as the other Members of the House in expressing my sympathy at his untimely passing. He had a charming personality and I was proud to consider him a close friend. My personal sympathies go to his wife and his family in this hour of sorrow.

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to join with the other members of the Ohio delegation and the membership of the House in expressing my personal deep-felt sorrow at the passing of JIM POLK. I, too, am a freshman Member of this House, and as such I have not had the oppor-

tunity that many of the other Members have had to have worked with JIM POLK over the years. On the other hand, as a new Member meeting Mr. POLK for the first time, I believe that I really found one of his truest qualities, and that was that it was so easy to know JIM POLK. JIM was the type of man that you could meet the first time and feel that you had made at the very beginning a true and trusted friend. Certainly, I shall personally always look back upon the past 3½ months in the sense of a true friendship with a wonderful man. I am sure that the people of his district have lost a great Representative; this House has lost a valuable Member, and each of us has lost a trusted friend. I also extend my deep sympathy to his wife and family.

Mr. SCHENCK. Mr. Speaker, I should like to join our colleagues here in the House in expressing my very deep regret at the untimely passing of JIM POLK. JIM POLK was an unusual type of person. He not only had a great deal of ability and represented his district and the Nation as a whole with distinction, but he had a great deal of personal courage that enabled him to meet the many situations with which he was faced, particularly in these last few months as he suffered great pain. And even though he had been suffering great pain he remained on the job here in the House and in behalf of his constituents at a time when many lesser men would have taken a much needed rest.

So, Mr. Speaker, I should like to extend to Mrs. Polk and their children the very sincere and heartfelt sympathy that all of us feel. Mrs. Polk has endeared herself to all of the wives of the Members of the Ohio delegation, met with them frequently, and is highly respected.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in the House in this tribute to a really great man.

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I have cherished JIM POLK's friendship for many, many years. He was an honorable, humble, modest, and magnificent man. He was a devoted and dedicated public servant. I served with him on the Committee on Agriculture during the entire time that he has served in Congress. I, too, want to extend my very sincere and warm sympathy to his wife and to the members of his family and on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture to present a very brief resolution which was adopted by the committee this morning.

Whereas JAMES G. POLK, for 21 years representative of the Sixth District of Ohio in the Congress, devoted the full measure of his talents and his energy to the improvement of agriculture, especially for the betterment of the living standards of the farm families of America; and

Whereas the ultimate achievement of a parity position of agriculture, with the other great segments of the Nation's economy and society, will be a monument to his memory; and

Whereas serving with the House Committee on Agriculture and having progressed to a high rank and position he won respect for his ability and was held in esteem by his colleagues: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the committee has learned with profound sorrow and a sense of deep loss of the untimely death of JAMES G. POLK; and be it further

Resolved, That the committee express its very sincere sympathy to members of his family; and be it further

Resolved, That the committee clerk communicate this resolution to the family of the deceased.

Mr. BOW. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues from Ohio and from the House in an expression of sympathy to the family of JAMES POLK at his untimely passing. Those of us who have served with him here have learned to love JIM POLK. There was no division of an aisle in the matter of the friendship and affection that we felt for him. We shall miss him. It will be hard to replace so gentle a character with anyone for whom we could have greater respect than JAMES POLK.

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, I join the distinguished gentleman from Ohio and his colleagues in the House in this expression of personal sorrow over the loss of my good friend and colleague on the Committee on Agriculture, JIM POLK. I have served with JIM on that committee for many years. He was a very skilled member of the Committee on Agriculture as he was a very skilled Member of the House. He was a person who used quiet persuasion, but in a most telling and effective manner.

He could get things done. He was always on top of his work, always on top of his job. He served his constituency in their personal and in their broader interests with great success and great distinction. He was a forceful and able student of agriculture. He knew the problems before our committee, I believe, as well as any member of the committee. He always gave the other fellow the benefit of the doubt. He was tolerant, he was kind, he was considerate, he was courageous. As an example of his great courage, he was frequently on the job and appeared at our committee this year when he was physically unable to be there.

I shall miss him. We have lost a distinguished, capable, and effective Member of the House. I extend to his wife and children my deepest and sincere personal sympathy.

Mr. AYRES. Mr. Speaker, JIM POLK was a kind, sympathetic, and understanding man. He was not only nice to work with, but having known some of his employees, he was good to work for. This body will miss JIM POLK. His friendship crossed party lines. I know all of our hearts go out to Mrs. Polk, his children, their wives and husbands, and all of those who were closely associated with him. In the future many of us can take a lesson from JIM POLK's attitude in this body. He was loyal to his friends and understanding of those who opposed him politically.

Mr. BREEDING. Mr. Speaker, I join the Ohio delegation and other colleagues in the House in extending my sympathy at the loss of JIM POLK. When I came here as a new Member of Congress his office was just across from mine in the Old House Office Building. I went to him many times for advice and consulted with him about the operations of the House. Certainly I feel that I have lost a true and trusted friend. I also want to extend my condolences and sympathy to the members of his family.

Mr. HENDERSON. Mr. Speaker, we feel a sense of profound sorrow in the passing of JIM POLK. The membership of this House has suffered a loss. JIM POLK was an able statesman, representing the interests of his people. Service was his theme, and devotion to duty was ever uppermost in his mind. He performed his work admirably and was an example to all of us. We will miss him. The people of this Nation, his State, and his district will also miss him. To his wife and children we extend our deepest sympathy.

Mr. GEORGE P. MILLER. Mr. Speaker, I join with others in paying my respects to the memory of our late colleague, Mr. POLK, of Ohio. To me he was one of the most efficient and effective Congressmen in this House, a modest man who effaced himself. He never sought recognition to take the floor on superficial matters or to discuss subjects in which he was not well grounded and prepared. He was always courteous, considerate, and tolerant in his relations with other Members. He was a gentleman and the highest type of public official. I join with my colleagues in extending my deepest sympathy to his family on this sad occasion.

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, like one of our beautiful mountain sunsets in the summer, the passing of Representative JIM POLK leaves an afterglow of love and warmth in our hearts and a feeling of a rather sweet sorrow today. The years of association with this man have greatly increased my respect and affection for him. He was a dedicated teacher and a great statesman who in kindliness, and rather silently, was extremely powerful in furthering the cause of our Government and in furthering good wherever he found the opportunity to do so. Many of us feel today to call him blessed and to thank our Maker for the privilege of having allowed us to associate with him in this great legislative body.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues on this sad occasion to pay tribute to the memory of our beloved colleague, JAMES POLK, of the Sixth District of Ohio. Being a new Member of Congress, I did not have the pleasure of knowing JIM POLK over the years. That pleasure was not to be mine until I came to the Congress in January of this year. I shall never forget the warmth of his welcome when I met him for the first time in the Committee on Agriculture. It was fitting that I, a newcomer to Congress, should meet JIM POLK in the committee room of the committee he loved so well and on which he labored so tirelessly and effectively. Mr. Speaker, I have been greeted many, many times in my life, but never have I been welcomed more warmly than by JIM POLK on that day. It was a friendly, gentle, and fatherly greeting that I am sure every new Congressman would have cherished for a lifetime. I know that I shall never forget it so long as I live. I would very much have liked to have had the opportunity of serving longer with JIM POLK on this important committee, but the Supreme Creator has ruled otherwise. JIM POLK's many years of experience in the field of agriculture would have been invaluable to me. His wise

counsel in this field will surely be missed by the entire Congress. I shall miss him personally, and I am deeply sorrowed by his passing.

I extend my deepest sympathy to his beloved wife and children for they shall miss him most of all.

Mr. O'NEILL. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues this morning in paying tribute to the memory of JIM POLK. I was deeply shocked, Mr. Speaker, on hearing of the death of our colleague. When I first came to the Congress 7 years ago, I was fortunate enough to be assigned an office next to the office of JIM POLK and through the years we became very, very friendly. He was quiet and unassuming, yet of a gentle nature. He was truly a lovable man and to know him made one's day a brighter day. I have never in my 7 years in Congress seen a more prodigious worker than JIM POLK. I join with the Members of the House of Representatives in condolences to his family.

Mr. DEVINE. Mr. Speaker, unlike many of my colleagues, I did not have the pleasure of knowing Congressman POLK for a long period of time. He made himself known to me at one of the banquets here of the Veterans of Foreign Wars after the beginning of this term of the Congress. He offered his assistance to me as a new Member of Congress notwithstanding the fact that I was across the political aisle from him. He was a very kind and friendly man. The fact is, just a day or so before he went to the hospital, he invited me to his office to discuss a mutual problem of flood-disaster relief. He had a group of people there and representatives from the Corps of Army Engineers. I think the State of Ohio has sustained a great loss. I join my colleagues in extending deepest sympathy to the family and to the people in Circleville.

Washington Court House, Portsmouth, Chillicothe, Hillsboro, and in the rest of his district who have sustained a great loss in the passing of Congressman JAMES POLK.

Mr. LEVERING. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in paying tribute to the memory of our departed colleague, JAMES G. POLK. His death is a very real shock to me and I am deeply saddened by his passing. His office was near mine in the House Office Building, and I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that he was of immeasurable assistance to me as a new Member of the House of Representatives.

As you know, he was one of the few real down-to-earth farmers in this august body. JIM loved the land. He took genuine pride in listing himself in the Congressional Directory as "one of the few Members of Congress whose sole occupation is farming." Our departed friend was a statesman, a loving husband and father, and a true American. I shall always remember JIM POLK for his gentleness of character, although at the same time I know, and the record shows, he was a man of deep conviction—a great fighter, a great source of strength for the good of his country. His district, our State of Ohio, and our Nation has sustained a great loss in the passing of this dedicated servant of the people. I shall miss him more than I can say.

I wish to extend my sympathy to Mrs. Polk and other members of the family in this hour of bereavement.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. Speaker, I am grieved to learn of the sudden passing of my friend, JAMES G. POLK. It has been a real privilege for me to have served in this House with JIM POLK many years. During most of that time we served together on the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives. JIM POLK was a gentle man, a kind man, a

considerate and lovable character. I always found him with a smile in spite of the ill health he endured for the past few years. Summing it all up, JIM POLK was a fine Christian gentleman.

In the passing of this great American, the Committee on Agriculture has lost a devoted member. The House of Representatives has lost a loyal and devoted public servant and his district and his State have lost a great Representative.

My deepest sympathy goes out to Mrs. Polk and all members of the family.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, JIM POLK was one of the most esteemed Members of the House of Representatives. He occupied a unique position in the minds of his colleagues during the many years he served in this body. He occupied that position because of the respect that his colleagues had for him by reason of those fine qualities that he possessed and which so many Members today have stated, in one form or another.

JIM POLK was a man of unusual character. He truly possessed nobility of character in about as broad and profound a manner as anyone could. He was a man of deep faith and he evidenced it in his human ways, in his contact with his fellow man, in showing by action as well as by words his love of God and love of neighbor. JIM POLK exercised a powerful influence in the House of Representatives as a result of the recognition of his unusual ability, his logical mind, and his sound advice. As Member after Member has properly mentioned, he was unassuming, kind, and good. It is because of those qualities, coupled with his unusual ability, that he was so effective as a Member of the House of Representatives.

As the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Hays] said, in giving advice he would give both sides of a question so that the Member could analyze and consider both sides and make

up his own mind. That is the type of gentleman JIM POLK was.

During his years of service in this body, in that quiet and unassuming way of his he has made his contributions to the legislative history of our country. You and I, who knew JIM POLK and served with him and number him among our friends, have been enriched in our own lives as a result of our association with him and the friendship that existed between us. In his passing I have sustained a personal loss, the House of Representatives has sustained a great loss. I extend to Mrs. Polk and her loved ones my deep sympathy, and to the Ohio delegation and to the people of his district likewise I extend my profound sympathy.

Mr. RAYBURN. Mr. Speaker, JAMES POLK was a fine man, of splendid ability, of the highest character. He served his district and his country well. In his passing his family and a host of devoted friends have my deepest sympathy.

Mr. EVINS. Mr. Speaker, I desire to join with my colleagues from Ohio and others in paying a brief but sincere tribute to the memory of our late friend and able colleague, the Honorable JAMES G. POLK, who passed away this morning.

I came to know JIM POLK well during our years of service. I liked him as a friend and admired his work and sincerity as the Representative of his district in the Congress. Although his primary interest was farming and agriculture, JIM POLK approached the problems of our Nation with a broad perspective without provincialism. He was a gentle and kindly man who bore the name of one of our great Presidents, James K. Polk, of Tennessee. We shall miss him. May I extend to the members of his family my sincerest sympathy in their bereavement.

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it was with great sorrow that I learned of the death of my colleague JAMES G. POLK, of the Sixth District of Ohio.

I have known JIM intimately ever since I have been a member of the House Agriculture Committee. He and I served together on both the Dairy and the Poultry Subcommittees, and I found his interest was always with the farm people of the United States. He was a kindly gentleman, quiet but very firm in his beliefs, and we in the committee will miss him greatly.

I want to extend my condolences to his wife and family.

Mr. FEIGHAN. Mr. Speaker, today we were saddened to learn of the passing of our esteemed colleague, JIM POLK. JIM had a very long and distinguished career as a Member of Congress.

He was a farmer by profession and a farmer at heart. He was a true son of the soil of Ohio. JIM not only had a thorough knowledge and understanding of the problems of the tillers of the soil, but he had a thorough knowledge and a sympathetic understanding of the problems of the city dwellers and those who earned their livelihood in endeavors other than farming.

JIM was indeed a kindhearted soul whose personality ingratiated him with everyone with whom he came in contact. He was a conscientious man of unusual wisdom and deep spiritual strength. He was a humble man who had the highest concept of his responsibility to his constituents. His devotion to his official duties was stimulated by his love for his State and his Nation. He has a record that has won for him the great commendation and respect of all of his colleagues. He was a firm believer in the American way of life. His great faith in the principles and ideals of our Government was evidenced in his record of service.

He was a great and true American. It was his ambition to pass on to posterity and to tomorrow's generation a stronger and greater America. JIM was living the fruitful years of his life and in his passing our Nation has lost a great and courageous legislator, and I have lost a true friend.

Mr. McINTIRE. Mr. Speaker, the passing of JAMES G. POLK, Representative of the Sixth District of Ohio, takes from among us a fine gentleman and a true friend. His passing is a personal loss to me.

It has been my privilege to serve with JIM on the Committee on Agriculture of the House for 7 years. We have served on subcommittees together. He was a farmer by training and business association. With his background he was a most valued member of the committee and we valued his kind, sound advice. He was indeed a gentleman, kindly in his relationship with all men, an able, devoted servant of the people.

Mrs. McIntire joins with me in extending our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Polk and family.

Our lives have been enriched by the personal acquaintanceship we have had with Congressman and Mrs. Polk.

Mr. ASPINALL. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sad and heavy heart that I pay my tribute today to our late colleague from Ohio's Sixth Congressional District. JAMES G. POLK was not only a colleague, he was a good friend and neighbor. When I first came to Congress, I was assigned office space but a few doors away from the office suite which he has occupied for so many years. Consequently, he was among the first individuals whom I had the pleasure of meeting upon arriving in Washington. From the start, he was most helpful in assisting me and my staff in getting ourselves oriented. On numerous occasions, especially in those early days of my con-

gressional service, he gave me helpful hints on the procedures and operations of the House.

JIM POLK served on the Committee on Agriculture and I frequently sought him out to obtain the benefit of his judgment on problems and legislative proposals pending before that great committee. He was never too busy to take a moment or two to consult with his colleagues and to offer to them his views on problems of the agriculture industry.

Our so recently departed friend and fellow worker was a quiet, effective, and dedicated public servant. His loss to the people of his district, to the State of Ohio, to the Nation, and particularly to this House which he loved so dearly is immeasurable. Mrs. Aspinall joins with me in extending to his widow and to his family our heartfelt sympathy.

Mr. THOMPSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when men sit side by side in committee through the years they come to know each other especially well, and in a way that is peculiar to our particular phase of public service. I enjoyed that close relationship with JIM POLK for years. I came to know his thinking and his approach to the complex problems of agriculture. I know of his devotion to the people whom he represented.

The past months, when JIM's health has been so obviously failing, pained me, as they did all of his friends, particularly those of us who were close enough to him to see the struggle that he was making against the dread disease which finally took him from us. He never gave up in his efforts to do things for people, until he finally went into a coma just a few days ago. It has been only about a week since he had his office call me to ask if I would preside over his subcommittee at some hearings which he had scheduled.

It will always be an inspiration to me to recall how JIM served right up to the last. I will never know a braver man

nor one who set a finer example of devotion to duty. My profound sympathy goes to his family and to all those who were near and dear to him.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, one of the first men that I was privileged to become acquainted with when elected to Congress was JIM POLK. He was always courteous, helpful, and friendly. We visited on numerous occasions. While his health was bad he was uncomplaining, always lending a cheery smile and a fine philosophy of life. We will always profit by the existence of men like JIM POLK. Mrs. Marshall joins in expressing our sympathy to Mrs. Polk and Mrs. Taylor, his daughter.

His district has lost a fine Representative, our country a fine citizen, and we have lost a real true friend.

Mr. GRAY. Mr. Speaker, a true friend has gone from our midst. I was shocked and grieved to learn of the passing of JIM POLK.

When I became a Member of this great body 5 years ago one of the first to shake my hand in warm friendship was the gentleman from Ohio whom we are eulogizing here today. He was quiet turned but truly represented the old saying "still water runs deep." He was always willing to give advice to those who sought it. He was always ready to extend a glad hand of friendship, yes, Mr. Speaker, we will miss him very much. His kindness, his service to his fellow man speak far more eloquently than any words I might utter here today.

Words will not really ease the grief that is placed upon the members of his family; however, I want to extend my sympathy in the deepest of sincerity.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply grieved this morning to learn of the passing of my friend and distinguished colleague, the Honorable JAMES G. POLK, who represented the Sixth Congressional District of the State of Ohio.

Through the many years of my association with JIM POLK I learned to deeply admire him for his fine qualities and gentleness of spirit. He served as a member of the Agriculture Committee for which he was preeminently qualified as his life was devoted to farming.

I wish to extend to his wife and daughters my deepest sympathy in their bereavement.

Mr. MINSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I was shocked and saddened to learn this morning of the death of our colleague, JAMES G. POLK.

JIM POLK always liked to point out that running a farm was no mere sideline for him. He was no city slicker farmer. He made up his mind to enter politics on a hot fall day when riding his sulky plow behind a three-horse team. All of his life he stayed close to his own farm and to the farmers of the Sixth District of Ohio. His biography in the Congressional Directory became noted for its brevity, being limited to his tenure of service and the one proud line: "One of the few Members of Congress whose sole occupation is farming."

When a session was over, JIM POLK would head back to his beloved green fields in Ohio. Two times he left public service in Washington in the hope of spending the rest of his life on his farm. Both times he was called back to Washington.

Once he remarked: "I'm one of those who thinks a man must have a calling for the farm, just as some men are called to the ministry or medicine." JIM POLK had that calling, and he gave his life to it. He served long and ably on the House Agriculture Committee. I cannot recall JIM POLK

raising his voice in anger, but he was firm and swift when he thought an injustice might be done to the farmers of this Nation.

His colleagues on both sides of the aisle admired and respected him. I would like to express my heartfelt sympathy to his family. We will all miss JIM POLK.

Mr. BOYLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with personal sadness that I take the floor today in tribute to a man who climbed down from a sulky plow to become a dedicated and respected Member of the House of Representatives. The Honorable JAMES G. POLK had served as a member of the Agricultural Committee since first coming to Congress in 1931 to represent the people of the Sixth District of Ohio.

Around Capitol Hill he was referred to as a political phenomenon, who retired after serving in Congress for 10 years to return to his farm, only to be called back 8 years later by his people to again serve them in Congress.

His untimely death is a personal loss as well as a loss to his State and to the Congress. Fate has written a finis to a fine congressional career.

To his family and loved ones I extend my heartfelt sympathy.

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, "kindliness," "tolerance," "friendliness" are words that have been used over and over again in tribute after tribute to JIM POLK. This man, conscientious, hardworking, a dedicated and determined fighter for his principles, yet found time to be helpful to all around him and to bring a spirit to his activities in committee and on the floor that left all of us feeling a little better toward

each other. The United States has lost an able lawmaker, Ohio a fine advocate, and each Member of Congress has a personal loss in the death of a true friend. I join my colleagues in extending my heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Polk and his family.

Mr. ABERNETHY. Mr. Speaker, the passing of our friend and colleague, JAMES G. POLK, leaves us in a state of profound sadness.

JIM POLK was one of the most beloved Members of this body. He was possessed of an unusually sweet disposition. He was a man of tenderness. He was kind, courteous, and good. In the many years I have been privileged to serve here with JIM POLK, I never once heard him make an unkind or uncomplimentary remark of anyone; nor was such made of him. He was loved and respected by all on both sides of the aisle.

It was my good fortune to have been quite close to JIM. For years we served together on the same committee, the Committee on Agriculture. We also worked together on several subcommittees. To have been so closely associated with this fine man was a rewarding experience, one I shall always cherish and remember.

JIM POLK was a good Congressman. He was unbiased. He was loyal and conscientious. In his daily living he was always mindful of his duty as a public servant. He put the people first, himself second. In this connection I am reminded of something which happened about 10 days ago. Although a very sick man, something which he undoubtedly knew, he called from his hospital bed of pain and discussed with me a matter pending in our committee. He was thinking of a commitment he had made to some people about committee hearings on a pending legislation. He wanted us to know of his commitment and expressed the hope that some

of us could pick up where he had been forced to leave off. Although the very sick man that he was, he was still thinking of his duties as a servant of man. As was typical of JIM, he was putting the people first, himself second.

This incident so clearly illustrates his devotion to duty and the way he lived. Yes, indeed, JIM POLK lived a good life, one that all who follow would do well to emulate.

I join with the distinguished delegation from the great State of Ohio in mourning the passing of our friend and colleague, JAMES G. POLK. And to the bereaved widow and family, I extend my profound sympathy.

Mr. RHODES of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it was with much sorrow that I learned of the death of our friend and colleague, JAMES G. POLK.

JIM was a modest man and a friendly one. He had a rare courage and high principles and was both loyal and conscientious. His kindness, his courtesy, and devotion to duty made him loved and respected by Members on both sides of the aisle. He will long be remembered for these qualities which many strive for but few possess.

I have considered him a very dear friend ever since I first became acquainted with him back in 1949 when I first came to Congress.

I join with his many friends in paying tribute to JIM POLK, and extend to his widow and family my deepest sympathy.

Mr. DAGUE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I join with my colleagues in this testimonial to the fine character of our late friend JAMES G. POLK who has been taken from us after a life that was lived to the fullest in the public service.

It was my privilege to serve with JIM POLK in the Committee on Agriculture and while he was undoubtedly among the best qualified to speak on agricultural subjects by reason of his farming experience he rarely raised his voice to criticize the proposals of his less-informed associates. In the 12 years of our association together I came to appreciate his even temperament and sunny disposition, and the highest accolade I can bestow upon him is to state that I never saw him angry nor do I recall ever meeting him when he did not greet me with a smile.

In my opinion we are too prone to judge a man by his eloquence or his involvement with public matters. The real test, as I see it, is how we handle ourselves in our relationships with those we meet along life's way, and whether we accept the divine suggestion that we are our brother's keeper. A great public servant, a stanch party man, our late lamented colleague was also a Christian gentleman and our faith tells us that he rests from his labors in scenes serene beyond the river. To this bereaved family go our heartfelt condolences and our prayerful solicitation that the Master will have them in His care and keeping.

Mr. COAD. Mr. Speaker, it was certainly a loss to the entire Nation to lose our colleague JAMES POLK, of Ohio, in death. It was my pleasure to know JIM through our many conversations together and the mutual projects on which we worked. I not only liked JIM POLK but I respected his knowledge. He was possessed with a sense of understanding and courage.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my deep sympathy to the members of Mr. POLK's family in this time of sorrow.

Mr. KIRWAN. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable JAMES G. POLK, a Representative from the State of Ohio.

Resolved, That a committee of 22 Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints the following Members of the House to attend the funeral:

Mr. Kirwan, Mr. Brown of Ohio, Mrs. Bolton, Mr. Feighan, Mr. McCulloch, Mr. Hays, Mr. Hess, Mr. Ayres, Mr. Betts, Mr. Bow, Mr. Schenck, Mr. Scherer, Mr. Baumhart, Mr. Ashley, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Minshall, Mr. Vanik, Mr. Cook, Mr. Devine, Mr. Latta, Mr. Levering, and Mr. Moeller.

The Clerk will report the remainder of the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

The resolution was agreed to.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.) the House, pursuant to its previous order, adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 29, 1959, at 11 o'clock a.m.

WEDNESDAY, *April 29, 1959.*

A message from the Senate, by Mr. McGown, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a resolution, as follows:

SENATE RESOLUTION 112

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of the Honorable JAMES G. POLK, late a Representative from the State of Ohio.

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators be appointed by the Presiding Officer to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased the Senate do now adjourn until 11 antemeridian tomorrow.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the Senate

TUESDAY, *April 28, 1959.*

Mr. YOUNG of Ohio. Mr. President, it is with a deep sense of shock and of profound sorrow that I have the sad duty of announcing to the Senate that only a few minutes ago I learned of the death of JAMES G. POLK, a Representative in Congress from the Sixth Ohio Congressional District. Representative Michael Kirwan, the dean of the Ohio delegation in Congress, telephoned me this sorrowful news; and I am reporting it at once to the Senate.

JIM POLK was serving his 21st year as a Member of Congress from my State of Ohio. He was a fine friend to me. He and I served together in the House of Representatives throughout the 73d, 74th, and 81st Congresses.

Except for a lapse of one term, he had, over a period of years, regularly represented a district comprising nine counties in southern Ohio. He had represented his constituency with fidelity and zeal.

JAMES G. POLK was a fine man personally; he was a gentleman of the sweetest character. He was a gentleman who was always helpful to his colleagues. He resided on a farm near Highland, Ohio. In fact, Mr. President, JAMES G. POLK was one of the few real dirt farmers in either branch of the Congress of the United States.

JAMES G. POLK was a graduate of Ohio State University, department of agriculture. He was regarded by his colleagues in the House of Representatives and by those of us who knew him in the Senate as an authority on matters of agriculture.

Mr. President, the untimely passing of JAMES G. POLK is not only a loss to the State of Ohio, but it is a loss to the

Nation. I wish to express my personal sympathy to his lovely wife and to the other members of his family. I know it will be very difficult to fill his place in the House of Representatives.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. I desire to associate myself with the fine statement which the Senator from Ohio has made about one of the good and great men I have known. I join with the Senator in extending my profound sympathy to Mr. POLK's family.

Mr. KEATING. It was my pleasure to serve with the late Representative JAMES G. POLK in the House of Representatives. I found him to be one of the soundest and most helpful Members in that body. He called his shots as he saw them. He wore no man's colors. He would depart from the position held by his party when he felt his party was wrong on a particular issue.

He enjoyed the universal respect of Members of the House on both sides of the aisle. I was sorry to hear of his illness, and I deeply regret his passing. I desire to join the distinguished Senator from Ohio in extending to his wife and his family my most sincere sympathy.

Mr. YOUNG of Ohio. Mr. President, the Senator from New York has stated a fact when he says that JAMES G. POLK was a man of intelligence. He was broadminded. He was an authority on agricultural problems. He was never a partisan in his approach to any matter. He was a great public servant and a fine citizen.

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I should like to add my word of respect in tribute to the memory of the late JAMES G. POLK, a Representative from the State of Ohio, to whom tributes have been paid by the distinguished Senator from Ohio [Mr. Young], the distinguished majority leader [Mr. Johnson of Texas], and the distinguished Senator from New York [Mr. Keating].

It was my privilege to serve in the House of Representatives with Representative POLK, and to serve with him for several years on the House Committee on Agriculture. No more conscientious, thorough, fearless, or better balanced legislator ever served in this Capitol. His passing is a great loss. His memory will long be revered by those who were privileged to know him.

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Bartlett, one of its reading clerks, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. JAMES G. POLK, late a Representative from the State of Ohio, and transmitted the resolutions of the House thereon.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Chair lay before the Senate a message which has been received from the House of Representatives.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. McCarthy in the chair) laid before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives, which was read, as follows:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S.,
April 28, 1959.

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. JAMES G. POLK, a Representative from the State of Ohio.

Resolved, That a committee of 22 Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions, and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate, and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

Mr. LAUSCHE. Mr. President, this morning I was grieved to learn of the death of Representative JAMES G. POLK, who, for a period of 21 years, served the Sixth Congressional District of Ohio.

My contact with Representative POLK began in 1944. He represented what is known as the Scioto River Valley section. The Scioto River empties into the Ohio River.

Representative POLK was a farmer. His entire life was devoted to the land. I am sure that the people of my State would want me to express condolences to the members of Representative POLK's family and to those who have been associated with him during his long service to the State and to the Nation.

Representative POLK was a humble, unostentatious person. He was devoted to the people he represented. Though he was a farmer, as a Member of Congress he did not lose sight of the fact that his services had to be rendered to diverse segments of the economy and of society.

He was a dedicated American. He was devoted to his family.

The best tribute I can pay to him is to state the fact that he was beloved, not only by those who believed in his political philosophy, but also by those who disagreed with him.

He was a good man. In his passing, Ohio has lost a fine public servant. I am sure that all of Ohio mourns the passing of this good man.

JAMES GOULD POLK

Mr. President, out of respect to the memory of Representative JAMES G. POLK, I now submit, on behalf of myself and my colleague, the junior Senator from Ohio [Mr. YOUNG], the resolution which I send to the desk, and for which I request immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be read.

The resolution (S. Res. 112) was read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. JAMES G. POLK, late a Representative from the State of Ohio.

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators be appointed by the Presiding Officer to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Mr. LAUSCHE. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Representative POLK, and as a further indication of our mourning at his passing, I move that the Senate do now adjourn until tomorrow, at 11 a.m.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 6 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.) the Senate adjourned, the adjournment being, in accordance with the order previously entered until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 29, 1959, at 11 o'clock a.m.

Memorial Tributes
to
James Gould Polk

Memorial Tributes

Mr. KIRWAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to include letters and eulogies sent to the widow and family of our late beloved colleague the Honorable JAMES POLK, who so ably represented the Sixth District of Ohio for a great many years.

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT,
Washington, D.C., April 29, 1959.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MRS. POLK: Mrs. Nixon and I were very saddened to learn of your husband's passing and this note brings with it our deepest sympathy.

I realize that words mean very little at times such as this, but I did want you to know our thoughts and prayers are with you in the days ahead.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,

RICHARD NIXON.

THE STATE OF OHIO,
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,
Columbus, April 29, 1959.

DEAR MRS. POLK: JIM'S loss will be felt by all of us, but of course not in the same way or degree as you will miss him. He was without question one of my favorite people. Kind, generous, cooperative, and extremely able. I hope that your sense of loss will be minimized in some measure by the knowledge of the great contribution he made to public service. If I can be of help to you in any way please let me know.

Sincerely,

MIKE,
Michael V. DiSalle.

JOHN W. DONAHEY,
Columbus, Ohio, May 1, 1959.

MRS. JAMES G. POLK,
Rural Route 1,
Highland, Ohio.

DEAR MRS. POLK: Mrs. Donahey and I were in Washington last Monday and stopped by Congressman POLK's office. We were so sorry to hear that his illness was of such a serious nature.

Then, of course, we were deeply saddened when we learned of his death. You and the family have our deepest sympathy.

I know that Congressman POLK's services in Washington will certainly be missed. He had the home-spun qualities that made everyone like and respect him. These qualities are rare in political circles today.

If there is anything we can do to ease your burden, Mrs. Polk, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN W. DONAHEY,
Lieutenant Governor.

U.S. SENATE,
Washington, D.C., April 30, 1959.

MRS. JAMES G. POLK,
Rural Free Delivery 1,
Highland, Ohio.

DEAR MRS. POLK: I was indeed saddened to read about JIM'S untimely passing, and want you to know how awfully sorry I am.

We served together in the House, and I considered him among my good friends. He was an able legislator and will be greatly missed by his many colleagues in Congress.

Nancy joins me in deep and heartfelt sympathy.

Most sincerely,

ESTES KEFAUVER.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, D.C., May 14, 1959.

MRS. JAMES G. POLK,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MRS. POLK: Your husband was an esteemed friend of mine and I share your great sorrow. You and all of his loved ones can well be proud of the life he lived and the record he made. As you know, JIM and I served as members of the House Committee on

Agriculture for many long years. At all times he was courteous, gracious, and kind and yet with foresight and vision he represented the people of his district. We, of course, knew of his long suffering, but the last sad news came as a great shock.

Enclosed is a copy of a resolution adopted by the members of JIM's committee. Madeline joins me in extending to you and your loved ones our very warm and sincere sympathy.

Cordially yours,

HAROLD D. COOLEY.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C., April 30, 1959.

MRS. JAMES G. POLK,
Highland, Ohio.

DEAR MRS. POLK: I have been immeasurably saddened by the untimely passing of your distinguished husband who was my good and respected friend.

In the years in which I have been privileged to serve with him on the House Committee on Agriculture I have come to prize his friendship and to respect him for his outstanding contribution to the public welfare.

I know that the solicitude of even his closest friends cannot lessen the sorrow which is now yours and I can only commend you to an abiding faith in the divine assurance that we shall some day be reunited with those whom we have lost for awhile.

Mrs. Dague joins me in this word of sympathy and it is our prayerful hope that you will be given the courage and strength that will be so sorely needed as you face this grievous loss.

Sincerely,

PAUL DAGUE.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C.

MRS. JAMES G. POLK,
Highland, Ohio.

DEAR MRS. POLK: I was terribly sorry to learn of JIM'S passing for he was my good friend for many years. I hasten to extend to you and to your family my deep and heartfelt expression of sympathy on what I know is a very great loss for you all.

With kind regard, I am

Sincerely yours,

GENE KEOGH.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C., April 29, 1959.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MRS. POLK: It was with much sorrow that I learned the sadness of your husband's death. He was a very near friend of mine and I share your grief in his passing.

JIM had rare qualities of character such as modesty, friendliness, and a devotion to duty which will make him long remembered among his friends and colleagues.

Mrs. Rhodes joins me in extending deepest sympathy to you and other members of the family.

Sincerely,

GEORGE M. RHODES.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C., May 1, 1959.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MRS. POLK: One of the best friends I had in the Congress was taken when JIM died. I am grieved and saddened. However, my loss cannot compare with that of you and the children.

Each of you has the satisfaction of knowing that JIM lived a fine and useful life, and that the world is better by his having lived in it.

I wanted you and the children to know that you are in my thoughts and in my prayers in this, your hour of great sorrow. May He who loves and cares for all of us hold you and each of your loved ones always safely in the hollow of His divine hand.

Sincerely,

JIM TRIMBLE.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Highland, Ohio:

On behalf of the U.S. Air Force as well as Mrs. Douglas and myself I extend deepest sympathy to you on the passing of your husband.

JAMES H. DOUGLAS,
Secretary of the Air Force, Office of the Air Force.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Highland, Ohio:

I am greatly saddened to learn of the passing of your husband. On behalf of the officers and airmen of the U.S. Air Force, I extend to you our deepest sympathy.

THOMAS D. WHITE,
Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,
Washington, April 30, 1959.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Highland, Ohio:

DEAR MRS. POLK: Mrs. Fisher and I have learned with sadness of the death of your husband. While there is little one can say or do in times like these to ease your feeling of sorrow, we should like you to know that you have our profound sympathy.

Sincerely yours,

W. P. FISHER,
Major General, U.S. Air Force, Director, Legislative Liaison.

APRIL 29, 1959.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Washington, D.C.:

MY DEAR MRS. POLK: Permit me to express my deepest regret to you on the passing of your husband, the Honorable JAMES G. POLK.

As Secretary of the Army, it was my privilege to observe the patriotic devotion to duty and the sincere concern for his fellow man that motivated your husband. His passing is indeed a great loss to our country.

I wish to extend my heartfelt sympathy to you in this time of bereavement and hope that this may in some small way serve to assuage your grief.

Sincerely,

WILBER M. BRUCKER,
Secretary of the Army.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D.C., April 29, 1959.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Washington, D.C.:

DEAR MRS. POLK: It is with profound regret that I have learned of the passing of your husband, the Honorable JAMES G. POLK. May I extend my deepest sympathy to you in your bereavement.

Sincerely,

J. H. MICHAELIS,
Major General, GS, Chief of Legislative Liaison.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
Washington, D.C.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Washington, D.C.:

DEAR MRS. POLK: I was saddened to learn of the passing of your beloved husband, and you have my heartfelt sympathy in your great loss. While I realize that words are most inadequate at a time like this, I hope you will gain some comfort from knowing that your many friends are sharing in your sorrow. If there is anything at all we can do to be of assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely yours,

J. EDGAR HOOVER.

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE,
Washington, D.C., April 20, 1959.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MRS. POLK: Our deepest sympathy to you in your great loss and my personal condolences at this time of great sadness. Congressman POLK will be sorely missed by our party and our country for his dedicated efforts on behalf of the people.

Sincerely,

PAUL M. BUTLER.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
R.F.D. 1, Highland, Ohio.

DEAR MRS. POLK: I was very sorry to note in Wednesday's New York Times the account of the death of your distinguished husband.

I knew him very well and our paths crossed frequently when I served in Washington as Postmaster General. He was a fine public servant and a fine gentleman and highly respected by all with whom he came in contact.

I know words are meaningless at a time like this but I do want you to know that you have my deepest sympathy.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES A. FARLEY.

THE AMERICAN LEGION,
JAMES DICKEY POST NO. 23,
Portsmouth, Ohio, April 28, 1959.

MRS. JAMES G. POLK,
Highland, Ohio.

DEAR MRS. POLK: It is indeed with a sense of deep shock that I read in the Portsmouth (Ohio) Times, the report of the death of your husband, JAMES G. POLK.

I have known Mr. POLK for a good many years and have had the pleasure of having voted for him each time he ran for Congress, and knew him personally, not alone in politics, but very closely in matters pertaining to veterans' benefits.

Mr. POLK and myself have corresponded quite frequently through the years, to and from his Washington office, in matters pertaining to individual veterans and their claims for benefits, and never once have I ever known Mr. POLK to fail to do all in his power in each case I brought to his attention.

So from a personal standpoint, I too feel that I have lost a very great and good friend, for not only myself but for the veterans on whose claims we have worked jointly, to attain the benefits desired.

Please accept my deepest sympathy in your bereavement, and you can feel assured that God will make a place in Heaven for a man so conscientious and clean living and honest as was Mr. POLK.

I will remember Mr. POLK in my prayers.

Yours very sincerely,

LOUIS T. KRICKER,
Service Officer.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF JAMES G. POLK

Ever since I first became acquainted with Congressman POLK, in 1932, he has been my warm, personal friend even though we were in different political camps, so to speak. He was a likable person, a type all his own—one whom we could and did call "JIM" because of his outstanding democratic manner—never aristocratic.

After his first election and departure for Washington, I was his successor as teacher of the adult Bible class in Highland Methodist Church which I then attended, being a resident of Highland at that time.

JAMES G. POLK, our good neighbor, will be more than missed by his many friends and by his constituents whom he has so ably served in Congress so long. His repeated reelections testify to the high esteem in which he was held by people regardless of political faith. JAMES G. POLK was an American before he was a partisan and the effects of his good works will long follow him and be remembered.

S. A. RINGER.

LEESBURG, OHIO, *April 30, 1959.*

NICHOLS, SPEIDEL & NICHOLS,
Attorneys at Law,
Batavia, Ohio, May 2, 1959.

MRS. JAMES G. POLK,
Highland, Ohio.

DEAR MRS. POLK: I hoped that I might be able to attend the funeral services for Mr. POLK today but circumstances will prevent me from doing so, and I felt that I must express to you my deep appreciation for the life and services which JIM has rendered to the people of this district and my sympathy to you and your family for this untimely death.

He has been my good friend over many years, and if my personal experience means anything, he certainly has been the most thoughtful, helpful, and devoted public servant this district has ever had in Washington.

With kindest regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

RUSSELL F. SPEIDEL.

WOOSTER, OHIO, *April 29, 1959.*

DEAR MRS. POLK: My wife and I learned with sincere sadness of the death of your husband. We served many terms together in Congress. There was no more modest or hard-working Member than he was. The farmers had in JIM a true and a reliable friend. He might not always agree with the members of the various farm organizations but these farmers learned that JIM had a reason based upon his long experience and knowledge and soon learned to rely upon him.

He clearly and patiently presented farm bills upon the floor of the House. With confidence I always voted with him. He will be terribly missed both for his personality as well as for his great contribution to the legislative program.

Bob Jameson—a former pupil of mine in Wooster High School told me today that he coached the teams at Hillsboro High School while JIM was either principal or superintendent. Bob told me how wonderfully kind he was and how easy it was to work with him. All of his friends will have something good to tell you about him and I am sure this will make you proud and less sad.

I am sorry that we could not join with his many friends in paying tribute to him at his funeral. Abl joins me in this our very deep expressions of sympathy and in hoping that you will have good health and many years in which to enjoy the memory of a fine American, your husband JIM.

Most sincerely,

JOHN MCSWEENEY.

THE PENN MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Philadelphia, Pa., April 29, 1959.

DEAR MRS. POLK: I'd like to express to you and your family my deep regrets over the death of JIM. He was a fine husband, father, educator, legislator, and one of my earliest and best friends.

How happy I was to have him as my principal for 2 years in Hillsboro High School, 1927–29.

I visited him in his office in Washington a few times and he was a statesman and a real American and an excellent farmer.

Most sincerely,

R. B. JAMESON.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION.

Washington, April 29, 1959.

MRS. JAMES G. POLK,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MRS. POLK: It was a great shock to learn of the passing of your distinguished husband, Congressman POLK. We served together for many years, having both been elected in 1930. He was a devoted public servant and served his district and the country well. He will be greatly missed and his place will be hard to fill.

We realize the futility of words in such an overwhelming loss, but we want you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers in these dark hours. We know that a word of comfort

strengthens our faith in the rightness of the divine plan, and helps us to carry on in these difficult times.

Grace and I wish to extend to you and your fine family our sincere sympathy.

Sincerely,

JESSE P. WOLCOTT.

SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Highland, Ohio:

Fifty thousand members of the United Automobile Workers of Region 2–A extend our deepest sympathy. We shall always cherish the memory of the Congressman who gave his all for all of the citizens of these United States.

EDWARD B. HELLKAMP,
Assistant Director, Region 2–A, UAW.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

Mrs. JAMES POLK,
Highland, Ohio:

We extend our sincere sympathy to you in your hour of bereavement. America and its people also lost a dear friend when your beloved husband passed away.

GEORGE FECTEAU,
President,
ANGELO G. GEORGIAN,
Secretary Treasurer, General Executive Board,
United Shoe Workers of America, AFL–CIO.

WITTENBERG COLLEGE,
Springfield, Ohio.

Mrs. JAMES G. POLK,
Highland, Ohio.

DEAR MRS. POLK: For the college and its alumni I extend sincere sympathy in the loss of your husband. His death was a great loss also to our Nation which he had served so faithfully for many years.

We at Wittenberg appreciated the generous support he gave to the college year after year and the ready manner in which he responded to various calls for help. I can recall no time when he failed to do his full share on any task we placed before him.

We were always especially proud of his honest, forthright stand on matters of principle. Our Nation, we are sure, would be

stronger were it fortunate enough to have more men like him in the Congress and other positions of great responsibility.

Mr. POLK's greatest monument will be his record of loyalty, honesty and devotion to duty as he saw it.

Sincerely yours,

W. EMERSON RECK,
Vice President.

[From the Evening Star, Apr. 28, 1959]

JAMES G. POLK DIES; OHIO REPRESENTATIVE

Representative JAMES G. POLK, 62, Democrat, of Ohio, who was as proud of being a farmer as he was of being a lawmaker, died today at Walter Reed Hospital of cancer. He had been ill several months.

Mr. POLK listed himself in the Congressional Directory as one of the few legislators whose sole occupation was farming. A member of the House Agriculture Committee, he served for 20 years in Congress in two tours of duty.

He was first elected in 1930, the first Democrat to be sent to the House from Ohio's present Sixth District. He served five successive terms. He did not seek reelection in 1940.

From 1942 to 1946, Mr. POLK was a special assistant in the Agriculture Department. He went back to farming full time before running again for Congress, in 1948. He was elected, and had served ever since.

Born on a farm in Penn Township, Highland County, Ohio, Mr. POLK attended the village school in Highland and went to high school at nearby New Vienna. He graduated from the Agricultural College of Ohio State University in 1919.

After college, he became principal of the New Vienna High School in 1919, and later was superintendent of schools there until 1922.

Following a period in farming near Highland, he returned to his studies, receiving a master of arts degree from Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio, in 1923.

For 5 years after graduation from Wittenberg, Mr. POLK was principal of Hillsboro (Ohio) High School, serving until 1928. Two years later he ran for Congress.

He was a member of Kappa Phi Kappa, a national education fraternity, the Masons, the Elks, and the Methodist Church.

Speaker of the House Rayburn today called Mr. POLK "a fine Member of Congress; a gentleman all around." He announced the House would adjourn out of respect to the Ohioan after eulogies.

[From the Washington Post and Times Herald, Apr. 29, 1959]

REPRESENTATIVE POLK DIES; 20 YEARS ON HILL

Representative JAMES G. POLK, Democrat, of Ohio, a veteran of 20 years in Congress who prided himself on being "one of the few Members whose sole occupation is farming," died of cancer yesterday at Walter Reed Hospital.

The Congressman, who was 62, had been ailing for more than a year and had been a patient at Walter Reed since March 21.

Agriculture was the Ohioan's chief interest in Congress where his only current assignment was on the House Agriculture Committee.

Representative POLK, the first Democrat elected from the present sixth Ohio district, divided his congressional service in two tours. First elected in 1930, he served from the 72d through the 76th Congresses. He did not seek reelection in 1940 in order to return to full-time farming near Highland, Ohio.

Two years later, he was named a special assistant to the Agricultural Department and held the job until 1946. He returned to the "Hill" for the 81st Congress and had served there since.

The Congressman was born on a farm in Penn Township, Ohio, and graduated from the Agriculture College of Ohio State University and from Wittenberg College, with a master's degree, in Springfield, Ohio.

Dividing his time between farming and teaching in the 1920's, he served as principal of the New Vienna (Ohio) High School, superintendent of schools in New Vienna and principal of the Hillsboro (Ohio) High School.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Polk; a son, William A., and three daughters, Martha Wilhite, Helen Vara, and Lois Taylor, all of Washington.

Services will be held Saturday at the Highland Methodist Church, in Highland, Ohio.

Putting aside scheduled business, dozens of House Members paid tribute to the veteran lawmaker. Speaker Sam Rayburn described him as "a fine Member of Congress; a gentleman all around." Agriculture Committee Chairman Harold D. Cooley, Democrat, of North Carolina, read into the Record a special committee resolution, especially praising Representative POLK's efforts to raise living standards for farmers.

[From the Portsmouth (Ohio) Times, Apr. 28, 1959]

Officials, Friends Join in Mourning Polk Death

State and district officials joined congressional leaders and local friends of James G. Polk today in mourning the veteran Congressman's death.

They praised Mr. Polk's long service as Representative from Ohio's Sixth District and expressed a feeling of personal loss at his passing.

Democrat leaders said his knowledge and experience in legislative matters will make him difficult to replace.

House Speaker Sam Rayburn, Democrat, of Texas, announced in Washington that the House will adjourn out of respect to Mr. Polk. The Speaker called Representative Polk "a fine Member of Congress, a gentleman all around."

Gov. Michael V. DiSalle, informed of the Representative's death, issued this statement in Columbus:

"The people of the Sixth District have suffered a great loss. Ohio and the Nation share in this deep feeling.

"Jim Polk was a kindly, able, and sincere public official. He worked hard for the people of his district and he was devoted to his obligation to the national interest.

"While I was in Washington, he was serving as a member of the House Agriculture Committee. His sense of fair play was so evident that I became a great admirer and a close personal friend."

Gerald D. Nye, of Waverly, State Democratic Committeeman from the Sixth District, said he was shocked and saddened by Representative Polk's death.

Mr. Nye said, "The Sixth District has lost one of its very finest citizens. Jim Polk was a representative of all the people. He was always trying to help our county and your county and the entire area, both industrially and economically."

Arlie N. Barker, Scioto County Democrat chairman, said, "Mr. Polk certainly did his job the way it should have been done. Those who knew him well will consider his death as very much of a personal loss."

Robert R. Leedom, county commissioner, called Mr. Polk "a very good representative of the people."

"He knew what the people wanted and he always kept that in mind," Mr. Leedom said. "He will be hard to replace with his knowledge and closeness to the people."

Attorney John Alden Staker, Democrat member of the county election board, remembers Mr. Polk's first campaign visit to Scioto County in 1930.

"He never dreamed then that he had any chance of winning," Mr. Staker recalled. "He has been an able and conscientious official and has enjoyed great popularity throughout the Sixth District."

William Staiger, president of Local 2116 of United Steelworkers and president of Shawnee District, AFL–CIO: "The death of Representative JAMES POLK comes as a shock and a feeling of deep regret to our officers and members. Representative POLK has been a true friend and excellent Representative of all people in this district.

"His always friendly approach and intelligent devotion to duty marked him as a fine example of public servants dedicated to perpetuate the American form of government. Although others will take up his work and carry on, the passing of Representative POLK leaves a void in our hearts that can never be filled."

Attorney Laurence Kimble, county Democratic leader and longtime friend of Representative POLK, said, "Mr. POLK was a great friend and advocate for the development of Scioto County and southern Ohio.

"He is irreplaceable. Personally, I feel keenly the loss of a dear friend."

Republican Municipal Judge Lowell Thompson said, "Everyone regrets the death of Congressman POLK after his many years of faithful service to the Sixth Congressional District."

REPRESENTATIVE JIM POLK DIES—SERVED FOR 20 YEARS

WASHINGTON.—Representative JAMES G. POLK, 62, Democrat, Ohio, died of cancer today at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

POLK had been ill for several months.

He had served in Congress for 20 years, in two tours.

First elected in 1931, he served five terms, then was out during the 77th through 80th Congresses.

POLK, whose home was in Highland, 10 miles north of Hillsboro, served the nine-county Sixth Congressional District of southwestern Ohio.

The counties in the district are Adams, Brown, Clermont, Fayette, Highland, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, and Scioto.

He listed himself in the Congressional Directory as one of the few legislators whose sole occupation was farming.

POLK was the third Member to die since the House was elected last November. The others were Daniel Reed, Republican, New York, and George Christopher, Democrat, Missouri.

POLK's death left the House membership at 282 Democrats and 152 Republicans, with 2 vacancies. Christopher's successor was chosen in a special election.

Under Ohio law, no replacement will be named for POLK until the next regular election.

House Speaker Sam Rayburn, Democrat, Texas, announced the House would adjourn out of respect to POLK, following the usual eulogies. Rayburn described POLK as "a fine Member of Congress; a gentleman all around."

Colleagues said POLK had been in and out of hospitals for the past 2 years and that he entered Walter Reed for the last time 2 weeks ago.

POLK divided his time between farming and school teaching after his graduation from Ohio State University's College of Agriculture in 1919.

He served briefly as a high-school principal at New Vienna, Ohio, and later was superintendent of schools in the same city; from 1923 to 1928 he was a high-school principal at Hillsboro, Ohio.

POLK didn't seek reelection to Congress in 1940 so he could return to farming. Two years later he was named a special assistant in the Agriculture Department, a job he held until 1946. He was reelected to Congress in 1948.

Representative POLK, who was a lifelong resident of Highland County, was the first Democrat ever to be elected to Congress from his district. He never was beaten in either a primary or general election.

Although he formerly was a school principal and superintendent his only business activity since 1928 had been operation of his farm near Hillsboro.

The Representative was a descendant of Robert Bruce Polk who came to Maryland from Ireland in 1672. His grandfather moved to Highland County in 1826 and his father, William A. Polk, was a banker and conducted a cattle feeding operation near Hillsboro.

Survivors are the widow, Mrs. Mary Polk; a son, William A. Polk of Washington; three daughters, Mrs. Martha Wilhite of Washington, Mrs. Helen Vara of Highland, and Mrs. Lois Taylor of Silver Spring, Md.; a half brother, Robert T. Polk, and a half sister, Miss Fannie Polk, both of Carreytown, Ohio.

Funeral services will be held in the Highland Methodist Church at 2 p.m., Saturday. Burial also will be at Highland. The body will be at the Patterson Funeral Home in Leesburg after noon Friday.

In Columbus, Gov. Michael V. DiSalle, informed of the Representative's death, issued this statement:

"The people of the Sixth District have suffered a great loss. Ohio and the Nation share in this deep feeling.

"JIM POLK was a kindly, able, and sincere public official. He worked hard for the people of his district and he was devoted to his obligation to the national interest.

"While I was in Washington, he was serving as a member of the House Agriculture Committee. His sense of fair play was so evident that I became a great admirer and a close personal friend."

[From the Portsmouth (Ohio) Times, Apr. 29, 1959]

CONGRESSMEN PAY TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE POLK—FUNERAL SATURDAY AT HIGHLAND; SPECIAL ELECTION LIKELY

Funeral services for Representative JAMES G. POLK, 62, Democrat, of Highland, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Highland Methodist Church. Burial will be in Highland.

Mr. POLK'S body will lie in state in the Patterson Funeral Home in Leesburg after Friday noon until noon Saturday.

Masonic services will be held at the funeral home at 8 p.m. Friday.

Representative POLK died Tuesday in Walter Reed Army Medical Center at Washington, D.C., of cancer.

The House of Representatives was adjourned Tuesday afternoon out of respect for Mr. POLK. About 25 Members of the House, including most of the Ohio delegation, eulogized Mr. POLK. Speaker Sam Rayburn adjourned the House after the eulogies.

Mr. POLK had been in ill health in the last 2 years. He was critical in the summer and early fall of 1958 following a major operation.

He rallied, campaigned a little and appeared on the road to recovery. In January he suffered a relapse and was hospitalized for examination.

He improved and resumed his duties. March 14 he entered the medical center for examination and treatment and carried on his office duties from his hospital room.

Mr. POLK first was elected to Congress in 1930 and served until 1940 when he decided not to seek reelection. He became a candidate again in 1948 and subsequently was reelected, winning his 11th term in 1958. He was serving his 21st year in Congress.

Mr. POLK is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary A. Polk; a son, William Polk, of Washington; three daughters, Mrs. Martha Wilhite, of

Washington; Mrs. Helen Vara, of Highland; and Mrs. Lois Taylor, of Silver Spring, Md.; and a half-brother, Robert T. Polk, and a half-sister, Miss Fannie Polk, both of Careytown, Ohio.

[From the Portsmouth (Ohio) Times, Apr. 29, 1959]

REPRESENTATIVE JAMES G. POLK

Somewhere along the line in the last quarter century JAMES G. POLK became known as the "people's representative."

He was proud of the designation and in a nutshell it sums up why the Highland County Democrat was unbeatable in Ohio's Sixth Congressional District.

He threw his hat into the political ring in 1930 as an unknown in a district that until then had been represented in Congress only by Republicans.

He astounded even his own supporters by unseating the veteran incumbent and becoming the first Democrat elected from this district. From that time to his last campaign last fall Representative POLK never lost an election.

The key to his political success was his representation of the people. Never spectacular, always in the shadow of more colorful contemporaries, Representative POLK kept in close touch with his constituents, regardless of political affiliation.

His conservative stand in the 1930's won for him Republican support which never was shaken.

He won and retained support of business and industrial leaders. He was solid with and was supported by organized labor and the farm vote.

Among the farm folk Representative POLK was synonymous with agriculture. It was his chief congressional interest and he served on the House committee in that field.

His retirement from politics in 1940 was to enable him to return to farming. And he was one of the few legislators who listed his sole occupation as farming.

Locally Representative POLK worked quietly but efficiently to help obtain the Portsmouth Area A-plant, the city's flood defenses, the Scioto County Airport, aid for schools, surplus commodities and improvements through WPA and PWA work.

Representative POLK had been in failing health for some months, but he remained on the job in Washington representing the people who elected him.

JAMES G. POLK had the respect of his friends and foes alike. House Speaker Sam Rayburn calls him "a fine Member of Congress; a gentleman all around."

That is exactly how his constituents thought of him.

[From the Portsmouth (Ohio) Times, May 4, 1959]

THREE PASTORS PAY FINAL TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE POLK—FRIENDS OVERFLOW CHURCH AT RITES FOR CONGRESSMAN

HIGHLAND, OHIO.—U.S. Representative JAMES G. POLK (Democrat, Highland), was laid to rest here Saturday afternoon in the family plot in Highland Cemetery.

The career of the 62-year-old Democratic Representative came to an end last Tuesday in Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.

Final services were conducted at the local Methodist Church where Representative POLK and his family worshiped when he was at home here.

The church was filled with flowers and people and many other persons were seated on chairs which had been placed on the lawn outside the edifice. A public address system was used to carry the funeral services given by three ministers who had served the Polk family.

Rev. C. S. Thompson, current pastor of the church, used the 17th psalm, 15th verse * * * "I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness."

SERVED OTHERS

Reverend Thompson said Representative POLK'S aim was "to always serve his fellow man well. He always thought first of others, himself last."

In his tribute of the legislator, Reverend Thompson cited his service in Congress and also to the church, such as when he taught Sunday school here.

Reverend Thompson was assisted by Revs. C. A. Arthur and Jack Ellsberry.

The body of the Congressman arrived at Patterson Funeral Home in Leesburg Friday morning and from noon that day until the time it was moved to the church a steady stream of persons paid respects.

Present for the funeral were six Members of the House of Representatives, the Sergeant at Arms and the Deputy Sergeant at Arms. The Representatives—William E. Hess, Wayne L. Hays, Gordon

Scherer, Thomas L. Ashley, Charles A. Vanik, and Samuel L. Devine—acted as honorary pallbearers.

LOCAL FRIENDS PALLBEARERS

The pallbearers were friends of the Polk family. They were James Roads, Carl Fetters, Charles Blackburn, Heber King, Tom McFadden, and Vannie Frye.

Letters, cards, and flowers were sent to the family from members of both political parties throughout the Sixth District, the State, and Nation.

"He was an American before he was a partisan," said one of his political opponents.

Similar eulogies came from his associates in Congress as they filled some seven pages in the Congressional Record last week.

The nearly 100 baskets of flowers sent were given to area hospitals and to the Veterans Hospital at Chillicothe.

Masonic services were held at the funeral home in Leesburg Friday night. He also was a member of the Elks, the Grange, the Farm Bureau, and the Farmers Union.

Farming was closest to his heart as he served on the House Agricultural Committee and owned two farms locally.

Representative POLK divided his time between farming and school teaching after his graduation from Ohio State University's College of Agriculture in 1919. He earned his master's degree at Wittenberg College in Springfield. He was graduated from there in 1923.

HEADED SCHOOLS

He served briefly as a high school principal at New Vienna and later was superintendent of schools.

From 1923 to 1928 he was high school principal at Hillsboro.

Representative POLK was born at Careytown, about 3 miles west of here, October 6, 1896, a son of William A. and Amy Isyphenia Ockerman Polk.

Surviving are his wife, 3 daughters, a son, a half-brother, a half-sister, and 11 grandchildren.

Those from Scioto County attending the funeral were:

Vernal Riffe, Jr., Arlie N. Barker, Everett Wilkerson, J. Alden Staker, Hymie Canter, Frank Smith, Russ Burns, Cleo Wiltshire, Mr. and Mrs. O. Carson Barklow, Mr. and Mrs. William Burch, and Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Peterson. Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Pyle, formerly of Portsmouth and now living in Oak Ridge, Tenn., also were present. Mr. Pyle was Representative POLK's secretary during the first 10 years of his career in Washington.

[From the Portsmouth (Ohio) Times, June 23, 1959]

COMMUNITY PROJECT IN HIGHLAND FOR MEMORIAL TO LATE CONGRESSMAN POLK

A part of the money from a community project in Highland for the Methodist Church will be used as a memorial to the late JAMES G. POLK, Congressman from the Sixth Ohio District.

The project, raising corn on the Polk land at the family home in Highland, is one of which the labor and materials are donated.

Mrs. James Roads, a member of the church's finance committee, said 46 acres have been planted, or will be by the end of this week.

She said half of the money will go to the church fund and half will be used to purchase an organ for the church in memory of Mr. POLK. He was a strong supporter of the church and worshiped there when he was home.

Mrs. Roads said the plowing, disking, planting, etc., has been handled by Don Ingersoll, Jim Roads, Bob and Bill Manuel, Leroy Larrick, Jr., George Roads, John Adams, Heber King, and Tom McFadden, who also has donated some fertilizer to the project.

She said others can help by donating money to buy fertilizer.

The seed corn was donated by Tom Miller, Mr. Ingersoll, and Winter's Service Station.

[From the Greenfield Daily Times, May 4, 1959]

POLK EULOGIZED FOR "LIFE OF SERVICE"

Seven Members and two officials of the U.S. House of Representatives comprised the congressional delegation to last rites for Representative JAMES G. POLK held Saturday in Highland Methodist Church.

Mr. POLK died April 28 in Washington.

Rev. C. S. Thompson, minister of the church, in his sermon eulogized Mr. POLK as a plain, righteous, and humble man who devoted his life to the service of others.

Revs. Jack Ellsberry and C. A. Arthur offered the prayer and scripture reading. Mrs. Leroy Larrick, Sr., was at the piano.

The large congregation was accommodated by placing extra chairs in the church and on the front lawn.

Burial was made in the family lot in the churchyard cemetery. Pallbearers were James Roads, Charles Blackburn, Carl Fetters, Vannie Fry, Tom McFadden, and Heber King.

The congressional delegation included Representatives William E. Hess, Wayne L. Hays, Gordon H. Scherer, Thomas L. Ashley, Charles

A. Vanik, Robert E. Cook, and Samuel L. Devine; and Zeake W. Johnson, Jr., Sergeant at Arms, and Kenneth R. Harding, Deputy Sergeant at Arms. They were appointed by Speaker Sam Rayburn.

Highland and Leesburg police officers and State highway patrolmen directed traffic.

Several hundred persons paid their respects during visitation at the Patterson funeral home in Leesburg.

Following the service, Patterson's sent many of the floral pieces to the VA Hospital at Chillicothe, and to the Greenfield, Washington C.H., and Hillsboro hospitals.

[From the Manchester Signal, Apr. 30, 1959]

CONGRESSMAN JAMES G. POLK, VETERAN LEGISLATOR, DIES TUESDAY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Death wrote finish to a long and active political career Tuesday morning at 10:48 a.m., when Representative JAMES G. POLK died of cancer in Walter Reed Medical Center, Washington, D.C.

The Highland County Democrat, representative of Ohio's Sixth Congressional District, was 62 years of age.

He had been in poor health for quite some time, having entered the hospital March 21. After examination, it was announced he was suffering from lymphoma, an inflammation of the lymph node.

POLK, after being seriously ill in the fall of 1958, recuperated in time to make a successful campaign for reelection.

His home was in Highland, 10 miles north of Hillsboro. His Sixth District is comprised of Adams, Brown, Clermont, Fayette, Highland, Pickaway, Pike, Ross and Scioto Counties.

The veteran campaigner had served 20 years in Congress. First elected in 1931, he served five terms and retired in 1940. After sitting out the 77th through 80th Congresses, he came back in the 81st and had been in the House since.

Mr. POLK was a "people's representative." He watched over his constituents in the district with constant attention, and no matter what political affiliation a voter in his district professed, he always received the same courteous, prompt reply to a problem from Mr. POLK's office.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Mary Polk of Washington, D.C.; a son, William A. Polk; three daughters, Mrs. Martha Wilhite, Mrs. Helen Vara, and Mrs. Lois Taylor; half-brother, Robert T. Polk and a half-sister, Miss Fannie Polk.

Funeral services will be held in Highland Saturday.

[From the Hillsboro (Ohio) Press Gazette, May 1, 1959]

RITES PLANNED FOR SATURDAY—SERVED 20 YEARS AS REPRESENTATIVE

JAMES GOULD POLK, 63, of Highland, who had served 20 years as Sixth Ohio District Congressman, died of cancer about 10 a.m. Tuesday in Walter Reed Army Hospital, in Washington, D.C.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 2 p.m., at the Highland Methodist Church, with the Reverend C. S. Thompson and the Reverend C. A. Arthur officiating. Burial will be made in Highland Cemetery under the direction of Patterson Funeral Home of Leesburg. Friends may call at the funeral home after noon, Friday.

The Representative had been in failing health for some time. He first entered the hospital last January 16, for examination and reentered the hospital on March 21 for treatment. Relatives said that he was believed to have had cancer for several years but periodic checkups failed to reveal it until a few weeks ago. He was born on Oct. 6, 1896, a son of William Alexander and Isophena Ockerman Polk. He was a veteran of World War I.

He made his home at Highland when Congress was not in session and engaged in farming. He was the owner of a 285-acre farm and took an active interest in its operation.

In Columbus, Gov. Michael V. DiSalle, informed of the representative's death, issued this statement:

"The people of the Sixth District have suffered a great loss. Ohio and the Nation share in this deep feeling.

"JIM POLK was a kindly, able, and sincere public official. He worked hard for the people of his district and he was devoted to his obligation to the national interest.

"While I was in Washington, he was serving as a member of the House Agriculture Committee. His sense of fair play was so evident that I became a great admirer and a close personal friend."

Tuesday in Washington, 25 Members of the House of Representatives, including most of the Ohio delegation, Democrats and Republicans alike, eulogized him on the Chamber floor before Speaker Sam Rayburn called for adjournment out of respect for the gentle, soft-spoken Ohioan. "He was a fine Member of Congress, a gentleman all around," Rayburn said. Several Senators, Senator Stephen M. Young, Democrat, Ohio, among them, spoke of his passing. Flags on all Government buildings in Washington were at half mast.

He was born on a farm near Careytown in Penn Township of Highland County. His parents and three of his grandparents were born in the same county. The Congressman was a direct descendant of Robert Bruce Polk, who emigrated from Scotland to Ireland,

where he married and later came to the Eastern Shore of Maryland, in 1672.

Joshua Polk, the Congressman's great-grandfather, came to Highland County from Maryland in 1826 and bought a 330-acre farm in Penn and Fairfield Townships.

His ancestors were pioneer residents of Highland County. Their principal occupations were farming, teaching, and preaching. Three of his mother's cousins were ministers of the Church of the Brethren and one of his father's brothers was a minister of the Universalist Church.

The Congressman's late father, William Polk, was for many years one of the most extensive cattle feeders in Highland County and president of the New Vienna Bank.

[From the Hillsboro (Ohio) Press Gazette, May 5, 1959]

TRIBUTES PAID TO REPRESENTATIVE POLK—SOLONS JOIN IN HONORING COUNTIAN

When JAMES GOULD POLK, 63, who represented Ohio's Sixth District in the U.S. House of Representatives for 21 years, died April 28, many of his colleagues paid him tribute both in the House and the Senate.

Ohio Senators Frank J. Lausche and Stephen M. Young headed the list of those who spoke in glowing terms of their association and knowledge of POLK's service and ability.

Lausche introduced a resolution memorializing POLK in the Senate and similar resolutions were adopted in the House, all unanimously.

Lausche described POLK, a Democrat from Highland, as a "humble, unostentatious person * * * devoted to the people he represented. He was beloved, not only by those who believed in his philosophy but also by those who disagreed with him."

Said Young, "He was a gentleman of the sweetest character. He had represented his constituency with fidelity and zeal."

Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson said that POLK was "one of the good and great men I have known."

Kenneth B. Keating, Republican, New York, who had served with POLK in the House, said, "I found him one of the soundest and most helpful Members in that body. He wore no man's colors."

Many more tributes were added by House Members, both Ohioans and those from other States.

Michael J. Kirwan of Ohio's 19th District, announced POLK's death to House Members and said:

"The people of the Sixth Ohio District loved and trusted JIM POLK, and held him in the highest esteem. He never raised his voice in anger and distinguished himself as an able, conscientious representative of his people. They understood and respected him."

Other tributes from Ohio Representatives included:

Clarence J. Brown, Seventh District: "He was a true gentleman, a man of great character and ability. JIM was a kindly man; a Christian gentleman, if ever there was a Christian gentleman on this earth of ours."

Wayne L. Hays, 18th District: "I have never known a person more kindly than JIM POLK. He was the kind of a man that I think all of us would like to be."

Thomas L. Ashley, Ninth District: "It has been said that JIM was a kind, gentle man. And, indeed, these were his virtues. But he was endowed, too, with a rare courage. * * * There will be few who will be remembered with greater love than JIM POLK for the wisdom and for all that he gave."

Delbert Latta, Fifth District, who, as a Member of the House, served with POLK on the Committee on Agriculture: "JIM POLK's many years of experience in the field of agriculture would have been invaluable to me. His wise counsel in this field will surely be missed by the entire Congress."

LAST RITES HELD FOR CONGRESSMAN

Congressman JAMES GOULD POLK, who served the Sixth Ohio District for nearly 21 years in Congress, was eulogized in brief, simple rites Saturday at 2 p.m., the Highland Methodist Church.

Officiating at the last rites were the church pastor, the Reverend C. S. Thompson, the Reverend C. A. Arthur, of Leesburg, and the Reverend Jack Ellsberry, former pastor of the church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Masonic services for the late Congressman were held Friday night at the Patterson funeral home in Leesburg. Hillsboro members conducted the service.

An estimated 500 persons attended the services for the Congressman, who had served 11 terms in Congress, 1931–40, and 1949–59.

In addition to many county, district, and State officials, friends, and relatives, a delegation of Ohio Congressmen was in attendance. These included William E. Hess, Wayne L. Hays, Gordon H. Scherer, Thomas L. Ashley, Charles A. Vanik, Robert E. Cook, and Samuel L. Devine. Zeake W. Johnson, Jr., Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives, and Kenneth R. Harding, Deputy Sergeant at Arms, were also in attendance.

Pallbearers included Carl Fetters, Jim Roads, Charles Blackburn, Heber King, Vannie Fry, and Tom McFadden.

Special music during the service was provided by Mrs. Leroy Larrick, Sr.

[From the Bethel (Ohio) Journal, May 7, 1959]

JAMES G. POLK

In the death of Representative JAMES G. POLK, the Sixth Ohio District has lost a devoted public servant. He was held in high esteem by members of both political parties.

First elected in 1930, he served for five successive terms. A humble man, his biography in the Congressional Directory refers to him as being "one of the few Members of Congress whose sole occupation is farming." He was deeply interested in and concerned about farm problems. For a time he was a special assistant to Secretary of Agriculture Charles Brannan.

After laying politics aside for 10 years, in 1948 he again ran for Congress, won back his congressional seat and, never being defeated, he continued in office until his death.

In the passing of JAMES G. POLK, the Sixth District has lost a capable, honest public servant who was completely dedicated to the duties of his office and to the service of his constituency.

[From the People's Defender, West Union, Ohio, May 7, 1959]

THE LOSS OF CONGRESSMAN POLK

The death of Congressman JAMES G. POLK, of the Sixth Ohio District, which came as a shock last week, is one of the greatest losses this section of Ohio had in many years.

Congressman POLK was an outstanding and well liked representative with a record in Congress that will stand for many years to come. His knowledge of the Sixth District was one that was thorough and he understood the needs of each county he represented.

As a member of the agriculture committee, he did not hesitate in asking information from his voters of the district before he came to casting his ballot on each particular issue. His interest in the burley allotment program was something that will remain in the minds of the growers forever.

His colleagues in Congress paid the highest tribute to him and said he was "kind, able and a Christian man." He had won the

respect of both the Democrat and Republican members of the body.

It will be many years in the future before the Sixth Ohio District will again have such representation in Congress.

[From the Miami Valley News, May 7, 1959]

POLK BURIED AT HOME IN HIGHLAND

The body of Congressman JAMES G. POLK was brought from Washington to the Patterson Funeral Home at Leesburg where it lay in state last Friday afternoon and evening and Saturday morning.

Final services were conducted at the Methodist Church in Highland, the Congressman's home town two miles west of Leesburg, at 2 p.m. Saturday.

Surviving are the widow, Mary Smith Polk; a son, William Polk, Washington; three daughters, Mrs. Martha Wilhite and Mrs. Lois Taylor, Washington, and Mrs. Helen Vara, who has just returned to Ohio from Germany where her husband is serving with the Army; a brother, Robert, and a sister, Fannie Polk, both of Highland.

[From the Chillicothe (Ohio) Gazette, May 11, 1959]

SENATOR FRANK E. MOSS OF UTAH LAUDS POLK AT DEMOCRATIC RALLY HERE

Utah's Senator Frank E. Moss spoke with admiration for the late Congressman POLK. "Though JIM POLK and Harry Truman were cast from different molds, they fought with equal effectiveness for the same principles," he said.

"* * * POLK was a quiet, reserved man, but a thorough, balanced, and fearless legislator. I want you people of the Sixth District to know I share your grief in his passing and I can wish you no greater blessing than the nomination and election of a Democratic successor who is even half as dedicated and effective as JIM POLK."

Municipal Court Judge William B. Brown delivered a "memorial" to the late Congressman POLK.

"Those who didn't know JAMES G. POLK wondered why he was such a success—that quiet, unassuming, friendly man. Those who did business with him became quickly aware that outward appearances are disarming and deceiving. Those of us who knew him

were devoted to him, elected him and reelected him, for, as our Representative * * * he truly labored in the vineyard."

Resolution Eulogizes Congressman Polk

The following resolution eulogizing the late James G. Polk, Congressman from the Sixth Ohio District, submitted jointly by Representatives James W. (Bill) Collins, of Highland, and Jackson, Kruse, Shoemaker, Riffe, Gaines, Leist, Hook, and Wallace, was adopted by the Ohio House of Representatives, Monday, May 4, and entered in the journal of the House:

"RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE JAMES G. POLK, CONGRESSMAN FROM THE SIXTH OHIO DISTRICT

"Whereas the members of the house of representatives of the 103d general assembly have learned with deep regret of the passing of a long distinguished Member of the U.S. House of Representatives; and

"Whereas Mr. Polk was elected to Congress in 1930 and served five consecutive terms (1931–41), when he voluntarily retired to become associated with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C., during the World War II period, only to be elected once again to Congress in 1948 where he served for five more consecutive terms, including the current 1959–60 term; and

"Whereas Mr. Polk was graduated from the College of Agriculture, Ohio State University, and from Wittenberg College, served his country during World War I, and taught school before entering Congress; and

"Whereas his public career has been marked by conscientious application to duty, sincere dedication to the service of his fellow man, and a devotion to public service of such superior quality as to demand the respect and esteem of all those who were so fortunate to come in contact with him, including fellow servants in Government and the many others in various walks of life and fields of endeavor: Therefore be it

"*Resolved,* That the members of the house of representatives, with the sorrow and grief that inevitably follows the deplorable loss of a remarkable man, pay tribute to the Honorable James G. Polk, and that this resolution be adopted by a rising vote and a copy thereof be spread upon the journal; and it be further

"*Resolved,* That the clerk of the house of representatives transmit an authenticated copy of this resolution to Mrs. Mary Smith Polk, his widow."

Resolution by Union Praises Polk

The following is a resolution passed by the members of the Highland County Farmers Union:

"Whereas Congressman James G. Polk was an active member of the Highland County Farmers Union, and a wholehearted supporter of Farmers Union policies; and

"Whereas as a member of this organization, as a farmer, as a Member of the Congress of the United States for 20 years, and as a member of the Agriculture Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, he rendered distinguished service to agriculture; and

"Whereas he regarded agriculture as a way of life, and was always a champion of legislation which would preserve and strengthen the family farm as a fundamental unit in rural life; and

"Whereas his personality was a combination of those qualities of courage, kindness, friendliness, and humility which caused him to be respected and admired by all who knew him: Therefore be it

"*Resolved,* That the members of the Highland County Farmers Union deplore the loss of the Honorable James G. Polk, and that this resolution be adopted in tribute to him, and that a copy be spread upon the minutes; and be it further

"*Resolved,* That the secretary of the Highland County Farmers Union send a copy of this resolution to Mrs. Mary Polk, his widow, to the Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, and to the press."

Prayer at Funeral Service for Mr. Polk

Almighty God, our Father, from whom we come, and unto whom our spirits return; Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Thou art our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Grant us Thy blessing in this hour, and enable us so to put our trust in Thee that our spirits may grow calm and our hearts be comforted. Lift our eyes beyond the shadows of earth, and help us to see the light of eternity. So may we find grace and strength for this and every time of need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

JAMES GOULD POLK

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR MR. POLK IN THE HIGHLAND METHODIST CHURCH, REV. JACK ELLSBERRY READING THE SCRIPTURES

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

The righteous live forever, and the care of them is with the most High; with His right hand He shall cover them, and with His arm shall He shield them.

For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, and house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

THE 23D PSALM

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the House of the Lord forever.

A PORTION OF THE 90TH PSALM

Lord, Thou has been our dwelling place in all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth, or even Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.
For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.
Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep; in the morning they are like grass which groweth up.
In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down and withereth.
So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Mr. KIRWAN. Mr. Speaker, I include a sincere and moving tribute to our late colleague, the Honorable JAMES G. POLK. Judge William B. Brown delivered the memoriam in Chillicothe, Ohio, on May 9:

MEMORIAL TO JAMES G. POLK

Let us pause a few moments in these proceedings to pay our individual respect to our mutual friend and Representative who has so recently departed from our midst. Let us contemplate the life and times of this man who for so many years has been first in the hearts of the 6th Congressional District of Ohio. And let us so conduct ourselves in our daily lives and in future years so that we will carry out the ideals which he exemplified in striving to form a more perfect union—to establish justice—to insure domestic tranquility—to provide for the common defense—to promote the general welfare—and to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.

Some of us who didn't know JAMES G. POLK wondered why he was such a success—that quiet, unassuming, friendly man; others of us who did business with him became quickly aware that outward appearances are disarming and deceiving; the rest of us who knew him were devoted to him, elected him and reelected him for, as our Representative allotted to us under our system of Government, "he truly labored in the vineyard."

Most do not know of his distinguished ancestry—that of an aristocratic American family beginning with Robert Bruce Polk, who emigrated from Ireland in 1672—no doubt to practice democracy and to get away from autocracy—whose collateral antecedents included the 11th President of the United States, whose given name he bore, a distinguished Confederate bishop and general and whose direct antecedents have been leading farmers, bankers, and businessmen of this district since the State of Ohio began. In fact, there might have been some royal blood in his veins since his lineage included the Bruce family of Scottish and Irish fame. These facts are not well known because JAMES G. POLK stood throughout his life not leaning against his family tree, but firmly on his own two feet. This is true because he was as American as the covered wagon, as democratic as Thomas Jefferson and to use the vernacular of his district, as common as an old shoe and sharp as a buggy whip.

Most do know generally of his active life—how he was born and raised and lived most of his life in Highland County; that he was educated and served his young adult life as a farmer and teacher; and that in 1928 he returned to his first love—the profession of

farming; how he realized at that time, as now, that this Nation's farm economy was going through a violent revolution and that direct action was needed to help the farmers of the predominantly rural district in which he lived; that he was elected to the 71st Congress and reelected through the 75th Congress; that during World War II, when he felt his services were more valuable elsewhere, he chose not to stand for reelection, but to serve as a special assistant in the Department of Agriculture, to better aid the war effort; that in 1949 he was returned to Congress whence he has served continuously until last week; that he was never beaten at the polls, come depression, prosperity, war, peace, drought or high water; that his record in Congress was distinguished, among other accomplishments, by his contribution to this Nation's agriculture and by his tireless efforts to be of real service to his constituents, be he farmer, laborer, industrialist, businessman or John Q. Citizen; and, that throughout this long and difficult period of our country's life he was universally known, loved, and respected as just "JIM." In fact, it is being said locally that if he had used his nickname instead of his given name on the ballot, he would even have carried Ross County.

Since the 28th of April from the Halls of Congress, over the communication networks, through the newspapers and in person to person conversations, throughout the district have come expressions of sympathy to the family, admiration for the departed individual, and a sense of personal loss to all that knew him. Commonplace in these expressions are adjectives such as "beloved," "loyal," "trusted," "conscientious," "respected," "sympathetic," "courageous," "inspirational," "firm," "good," "true," "cheerful," "kindly," "humble," "modest," "magnificent," "honorable," "friendly," and many, many more which were uttered by his colleagues in Congress and were recorded for posterity in the Congressional Record.

Mrs. Bolton, of Ohio, a Republican, as only a woman can, expressed her feeling amid the tenseness of the climax of the 86th Congress as follows:

"Mr. Speaker, all of us feel a certain sweetness has gone out of the House with the passing of JIM POLK."

Mr. McCormack, of Massachusetts, a Democrat and majority leader of the House, had this to say:

"He truly possessed nobility of character in about as broad and profound a manner as anyone could have. He was a man of deep faith and he evidenced it in his human ways, in his contact with his fellow man, in showing by action as well as by words his love of God and love of neighbor."

During the last 10 days I have talked to dozens of people of all walks of life, of all types of economic conditions, racial origin, religious and political beliefs about our departed Congressman, and invariably the adjectives I previously mentioned cropped out in the conversations. I am certain that this has been your experience and the experience of all thinking citizens throughout the district. True, some violently disagreed, as good southern Ohioans will, with JIM on this or that issue, but none doubted his ability or his honesty of conviction on any vote he cast. Most, including many Republicans, had some little personal or family experience of writing for a favor, or, for or against something, or, for information on any of a thousand subjects; and then being pleasantly surprised at the promptness and comprehension of the reply; of being further surprised by the way the matter was followed up from time to time; and finally being amazed at the results that were achieved. Many spoke of this attention to detail during the past few months when we heard rumors of his stricken condition and they lauded his devotion to duty under such dire personal circumstances.

I could only point out that this was the essence of JAMES G. POLK; that he believed that the people of the Sixth District elected him to represent them; that despite physical handicaps or other conditions he would devote his entire time to representing them to the best of his ability and within the confines of his capacity and Christian integrity; that during his 20-year tenure in Congress he has always done so at the expense of personal and financial advancement; that he believed deeply that the Founding Fathers had set up the office of Representative in the Constitution for the express purpose of looking after the needs of all the people of the individual districts; and this is why for a generation it has been the consensus in southern Ohio that if an ambitious person really wanted to get elected to Congress, he or she had best move out of the Sixth District as long as JIM POLK was willing to serve.

So many fine things are known about him personally and as our Representative, that to paraphrase Shakespeare, "the good JAMES G. POLK did, will live long after him." One of his finest legacies, I think, is one JIM wrote himself in the 86th Congressional Directory, where our elected Representatives set forth their earthly accomplishments from the cradle to Congress, some of whose fill several pages. JIM's contains one sentence. I quote: "One of the few Members of Congress whose sole occupation is farming." This information, he was certain, would give the people of this district all they needed to know about his biographical history; the rest they could obtain from their fellow citizens, or from his record, reputation, and character. "By his deeds, they should know him."

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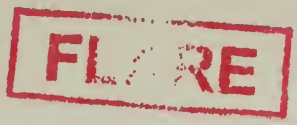

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